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Total pages including cover: 17

Subject: Preliminary Amendment.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR: Yongyong Xu : **SERIAL NO.:** 10/710,964

FILING DATE: August 15, 2004 : **GROUP ART UNIT:** 2168

EXAMINER: Jay A. Morrison

FOR: Resource Based Virtual Communities

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Before examining the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments: